



Youth Work Ireland

# Clare Youth Service Club/Project Newsletter

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## European Year of Volunteering in 2011

Taking place countrywide on Friday September 30th

More than 100 million Europeans engage in voluntary activities and through this make a difference to our society. A Eurobarometer survey in 2006 revealed that 3 out of 10 Europeans claim to be active in a voluntary capacity and that close to 80% of respondents feel that voluntary activities are an important part of democratic life in Europe.

### Why volunteering matters:

Volunteers are the agents of European values and objectives as laid down in the Treaties, in particular by promoting social cohesion, solidarity and active participation. They are the hands that translate these values into action, day after day.

- Volunteering contributes to building a European identity rooted in these values and towards attaining a mutual understanding between people in society and across Europe;

- Volunteering in its horizontal nature is indispensable in a wide range of EU policy areas such as social inclusion, the provision of life-long learning opportunities for all, policies affecting young people, inter-generational dialogue, active aging, and integration of migrants, intercultural dialogue, civil protection, humanitarian aid and development, sustainable

development and environmental protection, human rights, social service delivery, raising employability, the promotion of an active European citizenship, fighting the "digital gap", and within corporate social responsibility;

- Volunteering has a considerable economic value. The voluntary sector contributes an estimated 5% to the GDP of our national economies

- Volunteers and their organizations are at the forefront of developing innovative actions to detect voice and respond to needs arising in society.

- Volunteers mirror the diversity of European society with people of all ages, women and men, employees and unemployed, people from different ethnic backgrounds and belief groups and citizens from all nationalities being involved.

Volunteers have lower mortality rates, greater functional ability, lower rates of depression, and less incidence of heart disease than those who do not volunteer, all of which, according to Volunteer Centres Ireland, makes registering for Ireland's **National Day of Volunteering** a healthy choice this autumn.

[www.volunteerclare.ie](http://www.volunteerclare.ie)



Volunteers in CYS Centre 2010

### The Village Carnival

The Village Carnival is a three day festival being held in the village of Newmarket on Fergus on the west coast of Ireland on Friday 26th August, Saturday 27th August and Sunday 28th August 2011.

As this is a Heritage, Arts, Cultural and Music Festival they have a diverse range of acts, from a music festival to circus tricks to heritage walks to an artistic parade to a historical outdoor play. The bands are from all over Clare and related to the CYS Music Project.

The idea for the event came about as a way to promote community spirit in Newmarket on Fergus. Once upon a time a nine day festival was held in the village. This event was the highlight of the year for many people and showed the community spirit in the area.

This festival is not one to be missed! Finish your summer off in style, with something to suit every possible taste and enough acts to keep the whole family entertained. It's time to shake off those everyday worries and find the time to enjoy yourself at the Village Carnival.

The festival is being organized by volunteers of Buzz Stop and a group of local volunteers and is being run in the village of Newmarket on Fergus with the main event being run in the local GAA pitch.



Volunteers in CYS Centre 2010

• Dates for your Diary •  
August 2011

Indoor Soccer Tournaments  
TBA

The Village Carnival  
27<sup>th</sup> August and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2011  
Newmarket-on-Fergus  
Fr. Murphy GAA Pitch

## Club News

Hello Everyone,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a relaxing and well-deserved break.

Are you all very energetic and ready for the next step to power through to the last quarter of the year?

We are looking for you out there to let us know a bit more about your Club and what you have done so far and what your future aims are. How many volunteers do you have in your Club, exchanges, activities and how old the Club is or if your club has a website. If you have more information and pictures about your Club you like to share, please send all the info and pictures to our e-mails located on the top right of this newsletter or to CYS.

It would be great if we could add one Club to our newsletter each month.

### Thank You!

We like to say Thank You to all volunteers. Your effort and time is very much appreciated and we like to thank you for this and looking forward helping us in the future.

If you have any suggestions to improve volunteering or service, we are open to hear from you.

### Positive Options

Positive Options is a brand created to promote State-funded crisis pregnancy counseling services. Its stated aim is "To make women aware of the existence of a range of high-quality, State-funded, crisis pregnancy counseling services that can assist them in finding a resolution to a crisis pregnancy." Positive Options does not provide medical or counseling services directly. The services promoted through Positive Options, funded by the HSE Crisis Pregnancy Programme offer crisis pregnancy counseling to women with a crisis pregnancy and their partners. 15 counseling service providers are promoted through Positive Options and provide services at over 50 centres nationwide.

The Positive Options campaign message is: 'If you're dealing with an unplanned pregnancy, talking to a counselor can help'. The campaign aims to encourage women, their partners and families experiencing crisis pregnancy to talk to a State-funded counselor for free trustworthy and non-judgmental counseling.

For a list of State funded crisis pregnancy counseling services, members of the public can **freetext LIST to 50444** or visit the counseling services' pages on their site:

[www.positiveoptions.ie](http://www.positiveoptions.ie)

